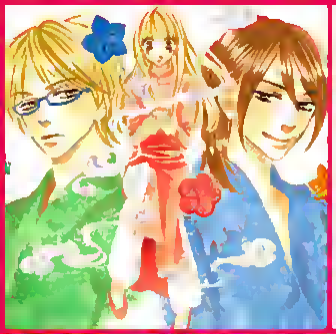

Last Notes - Chapter 12

by Sakurakouji Kaneko

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桜小路かのこ

最新FC「ラストノーツ」2大好評発売中!!! くわしくは 261ページへ

もう戻れない

Can Aki and Haru return to how they were?!

アキとハルには

香りが一気に

The love story of fragrance has come to its climax

クライマックスへ

chapter 12

ラストノーツ

Une femme sans parfum est une femme sans avenir

I'M NOT SURE
SHE'S NOT OUT WITH HER FRIENDS OR SOMETHING?
Since it's Saturday.
I CALLED HER, BUT IT WON'T GET THROUGH
IT SAYS THE PHONE IS OUT OF THE SERVICE RANGE. I'M A BIT WORRIED
HARU
DO YOU KNOW WHERE EMIRU-CHAN WENT?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HER SINCE THIS MORNING

RECAP

THE HITSUKUDOU BRANCH STORE SELLS "ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE" THAT SUMMONS DECEASED PEOPLE WHEN LIT. AT THE STORE IS WHERE THE SHOPKEEPERS, AKI AND HARU, AND THE NUMBLESS GIRL, EMIRU-CHAN, ALL LIVE.
EMIRU-CHAN LIKES AKI, BUT IS TROUBLED BY HARU'S KISS. AKI FOUND OUT ABOUT THE KISS AND TO CLEAR THE MISUNDERSTANDING, EMIRU-CHAN CONFESSED TO AKI. "I LIKE YOU, BUT I CAN'T GO OUT WITH YOU," WAS HOW AKI REJECTED EMIRU-CHAN.
AT THE SAME TIME, AKI RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM THEIR PARENTS TELLING THEM TO CLOSE DOWN THE STORE, SINCE THERE AREN'T ANY MORE ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE. EMIRU-CHAN COULDN'T STAND WATCHING AKI AND HARU ARGUE AND SAID SHE'D GO LOOK FOR ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE BY HERSELF.

CHARACTERS

MIHARU - AKI'S OLD FRIEND WHO GREW UP IN THE ORPHANAGE.

HITSUKARIDOU "HARU" - 1ST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. THE OTHER SHOPKEEPER OF HITSUKUDOU BRANCH STORE. LOVES MONEY.

HITSUKI CHIAKI "AKI" - 3RD YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT (REPEATER). A SHOPKEEPER OF HITSUKUDOU BRANCH STORE. HAS A SENSITIVE NOSE.

SHINOMIYA EMIRU - 1ST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. A BEAUTY WHO LIVES WITH AKI AND HARU. HAS NO HOME.

EMIRU-CHAN SAID SHE'D FIND IT,
THE CLUB JI-SHIN LEFT BEHIND ABOUT ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE.
SHE'S BEEN LOOKING FOR IT EVERYWHERE LATELY.
SHE LOOKED RATHER TIRED THIS MORNING...
BEEP
I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED.
...
BUT WEREN'T WE THE REASON SHE BECAME LIKE THIS
AH, SHE'S BACK.

SFX OPEN
バン
I'M BACK...
EMIRU-CHAN COULD IT BE THAT YOU WENT BACK TO THAT VIL-LAGE?
EH
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
Psyot-ic?!
Because you were out of the service range.
NO WAY
ISN'T YOUR HOME
JUST RAW LAND NOW?
YES, BUT
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE BURIED UNDER A TREE OR THAT SOMEONE'S
She went there alone...
TAKING CARE OF IT
SFX WAVER

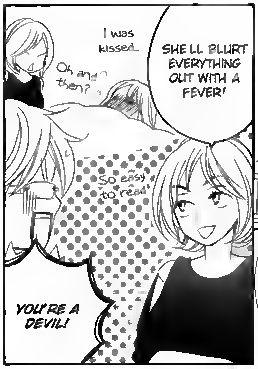
EMIRU-CHAN!
AKI...

YOU'RE BURNING UP.
I THINK IT'S ONLY A FLU...
YOU'RE PUSHING YOURSELF TOO HARD
...SORRY.
I SHOULD BE THE ONE APOLOGIZING
You actually went back to the village alone,
so that Haru and I could continue the business here.
Look at what you did to yourself.!
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WANT?
UM.
WHAT?
PLEASE DON'T MIND ME.

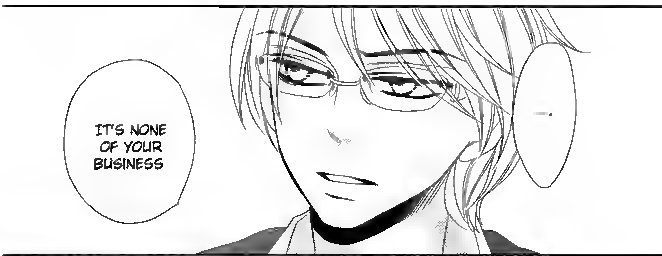
Her hand feels hot..
AKI'S SO KIND TO ME.
BUT I MISUNDER-STOOD
I'VE ALWAYS CAUSED YOU TROUBLE

I didn't accept your confession.
The reason why I want to be kind to you
is because I'm a coward..
NEXT STOP

SFX: SHOCKED
SFX: OPEN
I'M BACK
YOU'RE BACK EARLY
YOU SKIPPED CLASS?
Mihiro
CLASS WAS CANCELED
WHY ARE YOU HERE?
I HAD A DATE WITH EMIRU-CHAN
BUT SHE GOT SICK SO I CAME TO VISIT
She's sleeping now
I SEE
NICE TIMING
ARE YOU FREE?
I HEARD
YOU LAID A FINGER ON EMIRU-CHAN.


I was kissed...
Oh, and then?
SHE'LL BLURT EVERYTHING OUT WITH A FEVER!
So easy to read!
YOU'RE A DEVIL!

EMIRU-CHAN
WHO TOLD YOU THAT?
THAT CHILD CAN'T KEEP SECRETS.


IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS

IS THAT SO?
IF YOU REALLY DO LIKE EMIRU-CHAN THEN DON'T SAY ANYTHING

HUH !?
IT'S TRUE THAT I'M ATTRACTED TO HER.
BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY THING
...I'M NOT REALLY SURE
YOU DO KNOW AKI'S CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS, RIGHT?
IT'S SUCH A VAGUE FEELING.
I KNOW
IS ALL THANKS TO YOU!
HE BELIEVES EVERYTHING HE OWNS NOW

HE HAS EVERYTHING HE NEEDS,
BUT I
BUT ALL OF IT WAS EARNED BY HIMSELF!
DON'T THINK THAT WAY
EH!?

AKI, WHO WAS STILL A KID,
WITH HIS EXTRAORDINARY SENSE OF SMELL, HAD STARTED ADJUSTING OUR INCENSE STICKS.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHEN AKI FIRST CAME,
OUR FAMILY WAS ONLY A SMALL SHOP SELLING INCENSE STICKS

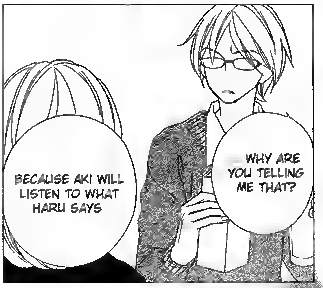
AND THE FINISHED PRODUCT BECAME
NITOUKOUDOU COMPANY'S BEST-SELLING ITEM
YOU'RE KIDDING..!
Thoroughly trained by Goshima's-JII san.
Goshima taught him a lot about incense sticks.
and that was how Aki's talent was found.
WELL DONE, AKI!
HARU, DID YOU KNOW BEFORE-HAND?
...Aki's strong sense of smell...
NO WAY.
HOW COULD HE HAVE KNOWN?

...AKI.
Let's go ask other people.
BUT...
NO CATS IN THIS HOUSE!
I GET IT...
WHAT WAS THAT?

IS THAT SO?
HARU MADE A GOOD CHOICE!

Go decide it with the R&D staff
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS SHOW THAT TO ME?
HARU THIS
IS THE COMPOSITION LIST OF THE EXPERIMENTAL INCENSE STICK
DON'T SAY THAT

STRANGE SMELLS AGAIN?
HOLD ON


BECAUSE AKI WILL LISTEN TO WHAT HARU SAYS
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT?

HARU
THANK YOU...

わたしの近況
桜小路かのこ
十人十色をがめざします。毎日自分のペースと対話するんです。自分のやるべきことが見えてくるからとか、しゃべさいことを全て言えるようになりたいです。
あたよりは
〒103-8008
小学館ベツコミ編集部
桜小路かのこ先生

And so I thought,
"Will they fall into darkness together?"
That's why
I stretched out my arm unknowingly.
AKI
WAS ABLE TO LIVE ALONE A LONG TIME AGO,
BUT HE PRETENDED LIKE HE DIDN'T REALIZE IT.
AND I JUST LET HIM DO SO.

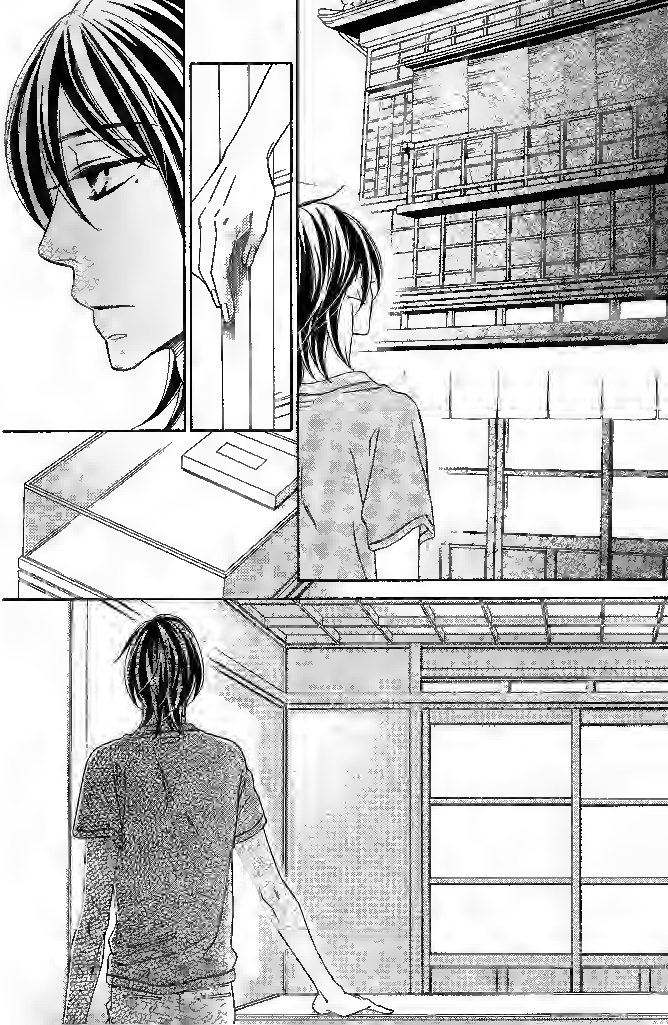
AKI
REALLY LIKES YOU...
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO FROM NOW ON?
I THINK IT HAS A NICE TIMING WITH EMIRU-CHAN'S SITUATION.

IT'S ABOUT TIME
AKI AND I BECOME INDEPENDENT.

SFX: SURPRISED
UWAH, AKI!
WHY ARE YOU HERE
WH-
I FOLLOWED YOU GUYS
Scared me...
I WAS WORRIED SEEING YOU TWO TOGETHER...
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO FIGHT BESIDE THE RIVER...
Mikiro did that in the past
That was ages ago.
SO YOU HEARD?

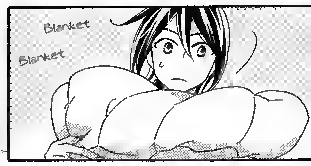
SORT OF.
IS IT BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BECOME INDEPENDENT TOO?
SPEAKING OF WHICH, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN CONTACTING ME MUCH LATELY
WHAT?
I WAS SO...
IF YOU KEEP RELYING ON OTHERS LIKE THIS,
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE YOU TREASURE.

SUPPORT THE PEOPLE I TREASURE...
ABERCROMBIE & Fitch EST. 1892 NEW YORK

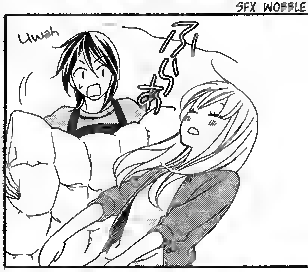


AKI...?
SFX: PEEL
OUCH!
I'LL MAKE SURE IT TASTES GOOD SO YOU GO AND REST
SMALL BLEED
WAH, IT'S LEAK-ING.
SFX: CHOP
SFX: CLATTER
SFX: CLANK
SFX: WORRIED ZX
YOU CAN'T BE UP, EMIRU-CHAN GO LIE DOWN
You still have a fever
BUT DINNER..
I'LL COOK TODAY
SFX: THICK
BUT YOU JUST ADDED INSTANT CURRY POWDER INTO CUP NOODLES BEFORE—
I'LL COOK TODAY!
TEXT: AKI YOU BRAT!

Shoujo Sense



SFX WOFFLE



YOU MADE THIS, AKI?
IT'S NOT TAKE-AWAY FOOD PLACED ON A PLATE, IS IT?
I MADE THEM!
THESE ARE THE PROOF!
WOUND
HOW COULD YOU LET A SICK PERSON EAT SOMETHING THIS OILY
I MADE CONGEE ESPECIALLY FOR EMIRU-CHAN
EVEN I CAN DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS
TRY IT

IT
EMIRU-CHAN, YOUR TASTE BUDS HAVE GONE WEIRD.
IT'S DELI-CIOUS.
Really
THIS IS AT MOST "EDIBLE".
HARU, YOU'RE COMPAR-ING IT TO YOURS
EDIBLE
HM
RIGHT?
I'M SUR-PRISED.
..I GUESS
I'M OKAY BY MYSELF.

—IS THAT SO.
HARU,
LET'S CLOSE THE STORE.
EH...
SORRY, EMIRU-CHAN,
BUT THE STORE'S CLOSING.
IS HARU GOING BACK TO THE OLD HOUSE?

AKI...
I STILL WANT TO STAY HERE
I'LL LIVE HERE ALONE
AND WILL GO TO SCHOOL PROPERLY.
THEN I'LL RETURN TO THE HOUSE
ABERCROMBIE & Fitch
NOT BAD?
...I UNDERSTAND
ABERCROMBIE & Fitch

I'M SORRY, EMIRU-CHAN,
BUT IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF US ARGUING THAT WE'RE MAKING THIS DECISION.

...MM
When he shows that face to me,
I won't be able to say anything.

MOM...?
CHAPPI!
KAZUYO ?

SFX TURN ON
YOU STILL CAN'T LET GO, HARU!
LET'S JUST KEEP IT FOR NOW
Chuck!
AHHH!
RIGHT. AND THIS IS OUR LAST ANTI-SPIRIT INCENSE.
LET'S USE THIS TIME TO BURN IT ALL!
SFX SWITCH ON
DON'T TURN ON THE FAN!
WHY NOT?
ARE YOU AN IDIOT!?
EVEN IF YOU'RE BURNING IT, YOU DON'T HAVE TO USE THE STOVE.

and spread
like a wave.
A little
shock
turned into
laughter

JUST MY IMAGINATION?
... THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.
EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST A MOMENT
IT WAS A NICE DREAM...

You brat
OMBIE

That night,
the images the neighbors of Nitoukoudou Branch Store witnessed
were so vague
that everyone stayed silent and kept it in their hearts.
TO BE CONTINUED...
THE TIME THEY SPENT TOGETHER WILL SOON BECOME PART OF THE PAST—
NEXT: THE LAST CHAPTER OF THEIR FATE

SHOUJO
SENSE
NEED
TYPESETTER
❤
If you're interested to help as one
mail to hemony@shoujosense.com